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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5658
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIGA 000110

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/26/2019
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [LG](#)
SUBJECT: LATVIA WELCOMES U.S. RETURN TO UNHCR, SHARES
CONCERN ON DURBAN DOCUMENT

REF: STATE 18282

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires a.i. Bruce Rogers, for Reasons 1.4 (b)

(C) Acting PolEcon Chief delivered reftel points to Sarmite Danne, Director of the MFA's International Organizations Department and Inese Freimane, Head of the MFA's Human Rights Office. Both Danne and Freimane welcomed the news that the U.S. would resume participation as an observer at the UN Human Rights Council. Regarding our discontinuation of negotiations on the Durban Review Conference document, Danne said that Latvia shares many of our concerns, and that the EU consensus position matches our points on the need for a shorter document, elimination of reference to any one country or single conflict, and removal of references to defamation of religion.
ROGERS